

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

SUB A1>

1. A structured document preparation method for
2 preparing a structured document in accordance with a
3 predetermined document type definition, comprising the
4 steps of:

5 describing, into the document type definition, a
6 plurality of element declarations which respectively define
7 a plurality of different logical structures and also a
8 plurality of entity declarations which respectively
9 designate the defined different logical structures;

10 validating one of the described entity declarations
11 to validate a corresponding one of the described element
12 declarations; and

13 preparing a structured document in said one logical
14 structure that is defined by said corresponding validated
15 element declaration.

1 2. A structured document preparation method as
2 claimed in claim 1, wherein, for each of the plurality of
3 entity declarations, control information indicating
4 whether the entity declaration is valid or invalid is
5 additionally described.

1 3. A structured document preparation method as
2 claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of different
3 logical structures include a logical structure form layout

4 and a table form layout.

1 4. A structured document preparation method as
2 claimed in claim 2, wherein the plurality of different
3 logical structures include a logical structure form layout
4 and a table form layout.

1 5. A structured document preparation method as
2 claimed in claim 1, wherein the structured document is a
3 Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the
4 document type definition is a Document Type Definition
5 which defines a document structure of the Standard
6 Generalized Markup Language.

1 6. A structured document preparation method as
2 claimed in claim 2, wherein the structured document is a
3 Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the
4 document type definition is a Document Type Definition
5 which defines a document structure of the Standard
6 Generalized Markup Language.

1 7. A structured document preparation method as
2 claimed in claim 3, wherein the structured document is a
3 Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the
4 document type definition is a Document Type Definition
5 which defines a document structure of the Standard
6 Generalized Markup Language.

1 8. A structured document preparation method as
2 claimed in claim 4, wherein the structured document is a
3 Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the
4 document type definition is a Document Type Definition
5 which defines a document structure of the Standard
6 Generalized Markup Language.

1 9. A computer-readable recording medium on which a
2 structured document prepared in accordance with a
3 predetermined document type definition is recorded;

4 the structured document being recorded in a data
5 file formed on said recording medium;

6 the data file at least having a region in which the
7 document type definition is recorded and another region
8 in which contents of the document are recorded;

9 a plurality of element declarations which
10 respectively define a plurality of different logical
11 structures and a plurality of entity declarations which
12 respectively designate the defined different logical
13 structures being described in the region in which the
14 document type definition is recorded;

15 for each of the plurality of entity declarations,
16 information which indicates whether the entity
17 declaration is valid or invalid being additionally
18 described.

1 10. A computer-readable recording medium as claimed
2 in claim 9, wherein the plurality of different logical
3 structures include a logical structure form layout and a
4 table form layout.

1 11. A computer-readable recording medium as claimed
2 in claim 9, wherein the structured document is a Standard
3 Generalized Markup Language document and the
4 document type definition is a Document Type Definition
5 which defines a document structure of the Standard
6 Generalized Markup Language.

1 12. A computer-readable recording medium as claimed
2 in claim 10, wherein the structured document is a
3 Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the
4 document type definition is a Document Type Definition
5 which defines a document structure of the Standard
6 Generalized Markup Language.

ADD A2>
ADD C1>